

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

CLIMATE CHANGE - Efforts to control greenhouse-gas emissions have not produced enough results, but world governments must not lose momentum on trying to address climate change, says Christiana Figueres, executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. While national governments have struggled to formulate consensus on broader action, cities including Johannesburg and Los Angeles have moved ahead with measures - such as tree planting and insulating buildings - to combat climate change and promote efficiency.

FOOD - The current droughts in Europe and floods in the USA threaten yet another rise in cereal prices in the next few weeks, and serve as a reminder of the changing dynamics of the global food supply system.

HIV/AIDS - Thirty years after the HIV/AIDS epidemic exploded across the globe, the one-time death sentence is now a manageable chronic illness, but questions persist over the future of treatment and who will fund it. Last year, HIV/AIDS measures cost the world \$16 billion dollars - a figure that is projected to increase to \$35 billion a year by 2031.

AFRICA

KENYA - Just as it declares a national disaster over drought, the Kenyan government is being sued over its alleged failure to respect a new constitutional right to food. High prices and poor rains have left some 2.4 million Kenyans at risk of severe food insecurity, according to a report covering the period between April and September 2011.

SOMALIA - Hundreds of children younger than five have been wounded in the latest round of fighting in Mogadishu, Somalia's capital, accounting for almost half of all trauma cases in May, according to the UN World Health Organization.

ZIMBABWE - Orphans and vulnerable children in 10 of Zimbabwe's poorest districts will start benefiting from a government scheme to help them go to school, have enough to eat and access medical care.

ASIA & PACIFIC

AZERBAIJAN - The number of underage weddings is on the rise in Azerbaijan, where rights workers and police observe brides as young as 12 years old entering arranged marriages. Some girls are effectively sold into marriage, rights workers say, in part due to the extreme poverty gripping the country.

SRI LANKA - Last year's drive to raise awareness of dengue fever in Sri Lanka and reduce the number of places where the mosquito that causes the disease breeds has had some positive impacts but urban areas are still at risk, health experts say.

WFWO's Communications Team